

REMARKS

Claims 1-154 were pending in this application. Claims 8, 13-21, 24-36, 39, 42, 77, 79-81, 85-88, 94-100, 104-120 and 134-154 are now cancelled without prejudice to Applicants' right to prosecute their subject matter in the present application and in related applications. Claims 62, 66 and 70 are withdrawn. Claims 1-7, 9-12, 22, 23, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 47, 49, 61, 71, 78, 82-84, 89-92, 101-103, 132, 133 have been amended without any intent of disclaiming equivalents thereof. New claims 155-164 are added. Accordingly, upon entry of this paper, claims 1-7, 9-12, 22, 23, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43-57, 60, 61, 63-65, 67-69, 71-76, 78, 82-84, 89-93 and 101-103, 121-133, and 155-164 are pending and presented for consideration.

Claim amendments

Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed. Exemplary support are provided as follows.

Claims	Exemplary Support
1	Paragraphs 0017 and 0018
2	Paragraph 0009
3	Paragraph 0017
4	Paragraph 0009; original claim 4
5	Original claim 5
6	Paragraph 0058
7, 9, 10, 11, 12	Paragraph 0039
22	Paragraph 0054; original claim 106
23	Paragraph 0047
40	Paragraph 0035
41	Paragraph 0035

43	For clarification
47	For clarification
49	For clarification
61	For clarification
63	For clarification
71	For clarification
78	For clarification
82	Paragraph 0024
84	For clarification
89	For clarification
90	Paragraph 0017
91	Paragraph 0044
92	Paragraph 0045
101	Paragraphs 0055-0058
102	Paragraph 0017
103	Paragraph 0043; original claim 83
128	For clarification
132	For clarification
155	Paragraph 0008
156	Paragraph 0017
157	Paragraph 0022
158	Original claim 51; abstract

159	Original claim 52
160	Original claim 53
161	Original claim 54
162	Paragraphs 0023 and 0038; original claim 68
163	Original claim 69
164	Original claim 54

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the claims introduce no new matter.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 1-23, 37-57, 60, 61, 63-65, 67-69, 71-84, 86-96, 101-107, 121-133, 136-143 and 146-153 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the molecular structure of “molecules” recited in the claims has not been fully disclosed and enabled. See, the Office Action, page 5. In addition, the Office Action alleges that the specification does not support the terms “exposing,” “formation of a precipitate,” “thereby effecting a separation of the first and second isotopes” and “removing the reduced actinide element” recited in the claims. See, the Office Action, page 5.

Without acquiescing to the rejection, and solely to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to delete the terms “molecules,” “exposing,” “formation of a precipitate,” “thereby effecting a separation of the first and second isotopes” and “removing the reduced actinide element.” Therefore, Applicants submit that the claims as amended fully comply with the enablement requirement and respectfully request the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-23, 37-57, 60, 61, 63-65, 67-69, 71-84, 86-96, 101-107, 121-133, 136-143 and 146-153, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Without acquiescing to the rejection, and solely to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to delete the objected-to terms including “molecules,” “exposing,” “reducing microorganisms,” “formation of a precipitate,” “effecting a separation,” “using any suitable process,” “performed for a time selected for a time to achieve reduction of less than . . . of the actinide element,” and “removing the reduced element.” Therefore, Applicants submit that the claims as amended are clear and unambiguous and respectfully request the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and the arguments above, Applicants believe that all rejections have been overcome. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues. Early and favorable actions are respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Fangli Chen/

Fangli Chen, Ph.D.

Registration Number: 51,551

Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP
Two International Place
Boston, MA 02110
t (617) 248-4715
f (617) 502-5002
fchen@choate.com